



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
LACOURSE *et al.*
Appl. No.: 10/772,470
Filed: February 6, 2004
For: **Vacuum Membrane Extraction System**

Confirmation No.: 6717
Art Unit: 2856
Examiner: Raevis, R.R.
Atty. Docket: 2254.0010001/RWE/JKM

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Filed concurrently herewith is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 in the above-captioned application. Therefore, in reply to the Final Office Action dated March 30, 2005, Applicants submit the following Amendments and Remarks. It is respectfully believed that entry and consideration of these amendments and remarks are proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, as this submission is being filed prior to payment of the issue fee, abandonment of the application, or filing of a Notice of Appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Federal Circuit. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this Reply is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims; and
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.